

## Citizens' Advisory Committee for East Hampton and Sag Harbor Town of East Hampton

159 Pantigo Road East Hampton, NY 11937

Carlà Caccamise Ash Robert Brody, Secretary Jerry Butler, Vice Chair Brian Carabine Prudence Carabine Katy Casey, Chair JB DosSantos Raul Guazhambo Jola Marcario Mary Ella Moeller John Whelan Kathee Burke-Gonzalez, Town Board Liaison

## CAC Minutes August 1, 2022

In attendance Katy Casey, J.B. dos Santos, Brian Carabine, Prudence Carabine, Mary Ella Moeller, Carla Cacamise Ash, Raul Guazambo, Robert Brody, John Whelan, Jerry Butler, and Kathee Burke Gonzalez (liaison).

The minutes from July were accepted. The next meeting will be outside at town hall, Monday September 12 at 6:00PM weather permitting.

**Stephen Hands Path**: The Town Board has agreed to use highway surplus funds for drainage only. The highway superintendent suggested that Stephen Hands Path and Cedar Street might be similar to Town Lane and Accabonac with stop signs. The Highway Department is holding off on other problems on Stephen Hands until is noted how Cedar and Stephen Hands changes work out. Members stated that Stephen Hands Path will back up at 114 to Long Lane. It was noted that the timing on the 114/SHP intersection has changed, there is not enough time to clear the SHP traffic, and the right turn lane must be extended and repaired to improve flow. Members asked about the possibility of a new design study for Old Northwest, Cedar and Stephen Hands Path. That is currently not in the town budget.

Other traffic issues: **Town Lane** is too busy with traffic especially at Spring Close/Jenny's Path. There is a stop sign but it is frequently overlooked/ignored. A 4 way stop configuration similar to Town Lane/Abraham's Path was requested as a traffic calming measure.

Designs for the **Senior Center** are moving along and hopefully there will be a presentation at the Town Board meeting in September.

**The Tree of Heaven**, an invasive species, has taken over parts of East Hampton. The committee believes homeowners should be educated about this. Perhaps the town Natural Resources department could put out an informational notice asking private property owners to cut them down on their property and not propagate or transplant them.

One member stated that **bamboo** is overtaking the woods spreading from her neighbor. It is destroying trees on their property and they are afraid a tree will fall on their house. The committee discussed banned plantings, how to report to code enforcement, and what department of the town is responsible for ensuring compliance.

Kathee reported from Suffolk County from Bridgett Fleming.

**Three Mile Harbor** community rental housing being built by the Housing Authority and Georgica Green Ventures is under construction, completion anticipated 2024.

**The 114 rental housing project** being built by the Town is in very early planning. Anticipated completion 2027.

A committee member mentioned that from their perch at the farm museum, they have personally seen ambulances unable to enter North Main St. This is dangerous and may be slowing response times. This illustrates how over-burdened our infrastructure is

Kathee stated that the town board does not know who has purchased the Montauk Airport. There are 5 law suits in progress about closing the East Hampton Airport.

**Community Housing Fund** A .05% tax the buyer pays (unless a first-time homebuyer) on purchases. The first \$400,000 is exempt. Buyers of homes will pay less in taxes if the cost is \$1,000,000 or less, as 2% CPF tax exemption will be increased from \$250,000 to \$400,000. The buyer will pay more in taxes on \$1,000,000 and over, and there are no exemptions for purchases over \$2,000,000. Revenue will go into a fund which will help local work force, seniors, recent college grads, policemen, teachers and young people stay in East Hampton, and will go toward building new housing, purchasing vacant land, facilitating accessory apartments in private homes, and converting existing properties into multi-family and single-family homes. Eligibility is based on income qualification.

Committee members will contact civic organizations to present on the bill to further educate the public and dispel misinformation.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05.